

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An earring, comprising:  
a first leg having a first end and a second end; and  
a second leg having a first end and a second end, the legs being connected together so as to be pivotable relative to one another between an open position and a closed position in a scissor-like fashion, each of the legs in a region of the second end being shaped to cooperatively form a structural closed path in the closed position.
2. The earring according to claim 1, wherein one of the legs forms a larger portion of the closed path than the other of the legs.
3. The earring according to claim 1, wherein the second end of one of the legs has a pin extending therefrom and the second end of the other leg has an opening into which the pin fits in the closed position.
4. The earring according to claim 1, wherein the closed path is substantially circular.
5. The earring according to claim 1, wherein the second end of one of the legs has a circular cross-section and the second end of the other leg has an edge shaped to conform to a portion of an outer surface in a region of the second end of the one leg so that in the closed position the second ends of the legs overlap and contact one another.
6. The earring according to claim 1, wherein the legs are made of a stamped material.

7. The earring according to claim 1, wherein the legs are made of a cast material.

8. The earring according to claim 1, wherein one of the legs has a laterally projecting post at the first end and the other of the legs has a through-opening in the first end that accommodates the post in the closed position.

9. The earring according to claim 8, wherein the post has a distal end with an angled surface for sliding engagement with an edge of the through-opening in the other leg to facilitate entry of the post into the through-opening.

10. The earring according to claim 9, wherein the post has a notch that engages with an edge of the through-opening in the closed position.

11. The earring according to claim 1, and further comprising a pendant element suspended from the structural closed path.

12. The earring according to claim 3, wherein the pin is at the second end of the first leg and the opening is at the second end of the second leg.

13. The earring according to claim 12, wherein the first leg has a laterally projecting post at the first end and the second leg has a through-opening in the first end that accommodates the post in the closed position.

14. The earring according to claim 5, wherein the second leg has the circular cross-section at the second end and the first leg has the shaped edge at the second end.

15. The earring according to claim 14, wherein the first leg has a laterally projecting post at the first end and the second leg has a through-opening in the first end that accommodates the post in the closed position.

16. The earring according to claim 1, wherein the first leg has a through opening through which the second leg passes and including a pivot that engages both legs at the location of the through-opening to enable the legs to pivot relative to one another.

17. The earring according to claim 1, wherein the first leg terminates in a dual spaced prongs defining an opening in which a distal end of the second prong is receivable.